

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck ND 58505**

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Media contacts: LuWanna Lawrence at 701-328-1892 or Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933

Speakers to share information on effects of adverse childhood experiences and other child welfare topics at conference July 25-27 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – Understanding the effects of adverse childhood experiences and building self-healing communities to support children and families will be one of many presentations at the North Dakota Children and Family Services Conference, July 25-27, at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. The conference provides training, information, and skill development in the areas of child safety, permanency, and well-being.

Preconference workshops will be held on Monday, July 24, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., starting with a presentation on supervising multiple generations in the workplace. Following lunch, attendees will learn about the effects of secondary trauma on professionals who work with traumatized individuals, and social work code of ethics.

On July 27 at 8:30 a.m., Dr. Robert Anda will share information on a large-scale public health study he co-created with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to track the effects of childhood trauma on a wide range of health and social problems through an individual's lifespan. Later in the morning, Anda's colleague, Laura Porter, will talk about Self-Healing Communities, an initiative to build collaboration and community capacity to support children who have experienced trauma and their families.

Conference breakout sessions include presentations on American Indian family preservation, addressing the opioid crisis in North Dakota, fostering employee motivation and engagement, the use of data to improve outcomes for North Dakota children and families, recent updates to the Indian Child Welfare Act regulations, and other topics.

Staff from the North Dakota Department of Human Services will give a presentation on July 27 at 1:30 p.m., on the Alternative Response Assessment, a new child protective services' process that wraps supports and services around parents of newborns who want to work towards substance abuse recovery while keeping their newborn safe in their home.

People can register and obtain a conference schedule and other details online at www.cfstc.und.edu.

Individuals interested in the child welfare system are invited to attend the conference. Registrants include social workers, counselors, foster and adoptive parents, therapists, law enforcement professionals, tribal social services staff, juvenile court directors, students, and other child welfare professionals who work with children and families.

Continuing education credits are available for social workers, counselors, and law enforcement professionals.

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Speakers to share information on child welfare topics at conference

Preregistration is encouraged, but registrations will be accepted at the door. The registration fee is \$125 for the three-day conference. Preconference workshops are included, but require preregistration due to space limitation.

The Children and Family Services Conference is co-sponsored by the University of North Dakota Children and Family Services Training Center and the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Children and Family Services Division.

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